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Application No. 10/781,488
Amendment dated September 27, 2006
Reply to Office action dated July 12, 2006

SEP 27 2006

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Remarks

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application. Claims 1-6 were rejected. Claims 1-3 are amended. Claims 1 and 2 are the independent claims. Reconsideration of the amended application is respectfully requested.

The examiner rejected claims 1-6 under 35 USC §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The examiner asserted that the claimed invention does not produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

Claim 1 recites a database system for organizing data elements according to a Hilbert curve. Claim 1 is amended to recite means for accessing the data elements. As stated in the written description on page 5, at lines 1-3, an object of the claimed invention is to organize multidimensional data according to a Hilbert curve to allow shorter access times to data stored in the system. As also noted in the written description, for example on page 6, at lines 24-33, the database system of the invention overcomes a problem of conventional database systems, namely, an advantageous means for accessing next multidimensional data in a query. Clearly, this is a practical application that provides a useful result. The quick access of data is a specific, substantial, and credible utility recognized by those of skill in the art, and provides a tangible and intended result of the specifically-recited organization of data elements according to the claimed database system. It is respectfully submitted that this post-solution activity renders claim 1 as patentable subject matter under 35 USC §101. The rejection of claim 1, therefore, should be withdrawn.

Likewise, claim 2 recites a method of organizing data elements of a database according to a Hilbert curve. Claim 2 is amended to recite the act of accessing the data elements. As stated in the written description on page 5, at lines 1-3, an object of the claimed invention is to organize multidimensional data according to a Hilbert curve to allow shorter access times to data stored in the system. As also noted in the written description, for example on page 6, at lines 24-33, the database system of the invention overcomes a problem of conventional database systems, namely, an advantageous means for accessing next multidimensional data in a query. Clearly, this is a practical application that provides a useful result. The quick access of data is a specific, substantial, and credible utility

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recognized by those of skill in the art, and provides a tangible and intended result of the specifically-recited organization of data elements according to the claimed database system. It is respectfully submitted that this post-solution activity renders claim 2 as patentable subject matter under 35 USC §101. Claims 3-6 depend from claim 2, and therefore recite patentable subject matter as well. The rejection of claims 2-6, therefore, should be withdrawn.

The examiner rejected claims 1-3 under 35 USC §112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the applicant regards as the invention.

The examiner suggested clarifying the meaning of the claims by changing "rot transformation" to "rotation transformation". Claims 1-3 are amended according to the examiner's suggestion. Claims 1-3 are also amended to provide proper antecedent basis for "said bitblock". The rejection of claims 1-3, therefore, should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that all rejections have been overcome. It is therefore requested that the Amendment be entered, the claims allowed, and the case passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



September 27, 2006
Date

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